GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2461
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2004
PROFESSIONAL BLOOD DONORS
Singh Shri Prabhunath

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government is aware that professional blood donor gangs are active in most of the Delhi hospitals in collusion with hospital staff, local police and nearby situated laboratories despite a ban imposed by the Supreme Court on the purchase of blood from professional blood donors ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure availability of blood of each group in adequate quantity in hospitals ;

(d) the daily consumption of blood in Delhi and the quantum of blood collected daily from blood donors ;

(e) the nature of arrangements made for the remaining blood;

(f) the details of blood banks functioning in Delhi ; and

(g) the details of complaints generally received against them?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b) There have been media reports about professional blood donors still being active in some blood banks of Delhi. These reports have been enquired into by State Blood Transfusion Council and Drugs Control Department of NCT Delhi as and when these appeared. These reports have not been substantiated due to lack of evidence.

(c) :Delhi has eight Regional Blood Centres which are collecting and issuing blood for the patients of Delhi. Delhi Government has decided to permit all other Charitable Hospitals and Registered Trust operated Blood Banks to hold Voluntary Blood Camps to increase Voluntary Donation.

(d) & (e) The annual requirement in Delhi is Approximately 3.25 lakh units. The collection in the year 2003 was 3,26,861 units. There is no shortage of blood except for some rare blood groups.

(f) There are a total of 45 licensed blood banks in Delhi of which 8 are with Central Government, 7 with Delhi Government , 3 with Municipal Corporation of Delhi, 18 Private Corporate/Trust operated hospitals and 7 stand alone blood banks. Out of 45 blood banks 8 are operating as Regional Centres. 28 Blood Banks have the facility for component separation.

(g) No specific complaints are stated to have been received by Government of NCT Delhi except occasional press articles.